

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 28, 2006

**OPPOSE EFFORTS TO BURDEN COMMUNITIES WITH
CLEANUP COSTS FOR CONTAMINATED WATER SUPPLIES –
OPPOSE H.R. 4341**

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to ask that you join with the public health advocates, water providers, cities, states, State Attorneys General, and environmental organizations to oppose H.R. 4341, legislation which would burden our communities with contaminated water supplies and cleanup costs.

H.R. 4341 exempts hazardous substance releases from animal feeding operations from liability and reporting under the Superfund law and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act. Join the attached list of organizations in **opposing** this bill and:


- **Protect** the **only** federal authority that allows local governments to recover water treatment costs from large concentrated animal feeding operations for phosphorous contamination of drinking water supplies;
- **Preserve** the **only** federal authority that allows states to recover natural resource damages caused by releases of phosphorous and other hazardous substances from large animal feeding operations; and
- **Maintain** the authorities of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act and Superfund that require reporting of air releases from ammonia and hydrogen sulfide above 100 pounds per day from large animal feeding operations.


Without this authority, local governments will not be able to protect the health of their communities, will not have the ability to mitigate resulting hazards, and will not be able to recover cleanup or treatment costs for contamination of public drinking water supplies caused by large animal feeding operations.


H.R. 4341 risks the health of our communities and places the cost of cleanup squarely on the shoulders of our ratepayers. Please join us in opposing H.R. 4341.

Sincerely,


HILDA L. SOLIS
Member of Congress


JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress


HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress


DIANA DEGETTE
Member of Congress

The Following Oppose H.R. 4341

U.S. Conference of Mayors
National League of Cities
National Association of Counties
American Water Works Association
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Humane Society of the United States
League of Conservation Voters
National Association of County and City
Health Officials
Association of State and Territorial Solid
Waste Management Officials
City of Waco, Texas
State of Iowa Department of Natural
Resources
Des Moines (IA) Water Works
City of Tulsa (OK)

State Attorneys General

Bill Locker (CA)
Richard Blumenthal (CT)
Gregory D. Stumbo (KT)
Zulima V. Farmer (NJ)
Patricia A. Madrid (NM)
Eliot Spitzer (NY)
W.A. Drew Edmonson (OK)
Peggy A. Lautenschlager (WI)

Environmental Advocates

Alliance for the Great Lakes
American Bottom Conservancy
American Rivers
Animal Welfare Institute
Appalachian Center for the Economy and
Environment
Arizona PIRG
Center on Race, Poverty and the
Environment
Christen Farms
Citizens Against Factory Farms, Inc.
Clean Water Action
Clean Water Action Alliance of Minnesota
Clean Water Network of Florida
Coast Action Group
Community Association for Restoration of
the Environment
Concerned Citizens for Clean Water
Concerned Citizens Against Pig
Confinement
Dakota Rural Action

Earthjustice
Environmental Defense
Environmental Integrity Project
Environmental Law and Policy Center
Environment Colorado
Environment Michigan
Families Against Rural Messes
Family Farm Defenders
Family Farms for the Future
Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers
Food and Water Watch
Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network and
Fund
Gulf Restoration Network
Help Save the Apalachicola River Group
Idaho Conservation League
Illinois Stewardship Alliance
Indigenous Environmental Network
Iowa CCI
Iowa Environmental Network
Iowa Farmers Union
Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper
Midwest Environmental Advocates
The Minnesota Project
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
New Jersey State Federation of Sportmen's
Clubs
National Environmental Trust
National Lawyers Guild Environmental
Justice Committee
Natural Resources Defense Council
The New York Environmental Law and
Justice Project
Northwest Environmental Defense Center
The Ohio Environmental Council
Ozark Clear Water
Raymond Proffitt Foundation
Save the Valley
Sierra Club
Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
United States PIRG
Waterkeeper Alliance
Western Environmental Law Center
Western Organization of Resource Council
West Virginia B.A.S.S. Federation Nation
Wyoming Outdoor Council